



Nebraska Weather and Crops

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service
Nebraska Field Office

100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Phone: 402-437-5541 E-mail: nass-ne@nass.usda.gov

Access our reports via the Internet: www.nass.usda.gov

Mark Harris, Director



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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending May 14, 2006, dry conditions across much of the state allowed spring planting to advance, according to USDA National Agricultural Statistic Service, Nebraska Field Office. However, cooler than normal temperatures slowed crop growth and emergence. The lack of moisture was forcing some producers to run pivots to germinate crops. With less than two inches of moisture in portions of the southwest since the first of January, crop stress was evident and pastures were slow to develop.

Weather Summary: It was another cool week in the state with temperatures ranging from two to eight degrees below normal. Precipitation totals were low across the state as well, with the exception of a few counties in the southeast which picked up close to one inch.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending May 14, 2006

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Topsoil				
Very Short	15	4	1	7
Short	25	24	6	16
Adequate	59	71	78	71
Surplus	1	1	15	6
Subsoil				
Very Short	16	9	10	16
Short	30	36	20	29
Adequate	54	55	66	54
Surplus	0	0	4	1
Days Suitable	6.2	4.5	3.2	4.8

Field Crops Report: Wheat conditions declined noticeably and rated 13 percent very poor, 20 poor, 31 fair, 30 good, and 6 excellent, well below last year. Near two-thirds of the crop in southwestern counties was rated as poor or very poor. Wheat jointed was at 79 percent, near 82 percent last year but ahead of the five-year average 74. Wheat headed was at 12 percent, ahead of 3 last year and 9 average.

Corn planting had another productive week and was 89 percent complete. This is ahead of last years 87 percent and the five-year average of 80. Corn emerged was at 34 percent, ahead of last year at 29 and even with the average.

Soybean planting had a good week and was 32 percent complete. This is near last year's 33 but ahead of 28 average.

Alfalfa 1st cutting was 5 percent complete, near a year ago and the five-year average. Alfalfa conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 3 poor, 24 fair, 56 good, and 16 excellent. This rating continues above last year.

Oats emerged was at 97 percent, ahead of 94 percent last year and 88 percent average. Oat conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 24 fair, 65 good, and 6 excellent, which is above last year.

Sorghum planted was 13 percent complete. This is near last year's 14 and average 11. A few fields in the East Central District had emerged.

Sugarbeet planting was 97 percent complete, near 98 last year. Producers were replanting some sugarbeets due to frost damage.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending May 14, 2006

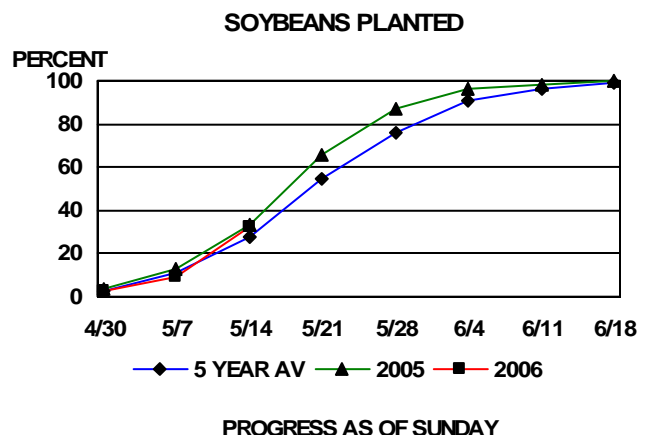
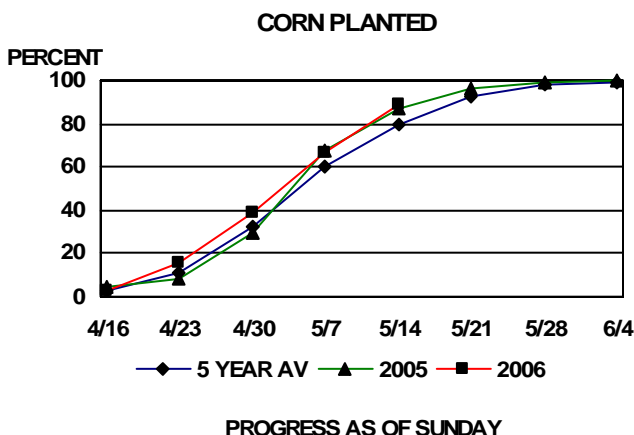
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Alfalfa 1 st Cutting	5	0	3	2
Corn Planted	89	67	87	80
Corn Emerged	34	13	29	34
Oats Emerged	97	80	94	88
Sorghum Planted	13	2	14	11
Soybeans Planted	32	9	33	28
Soybeans Emerged	2	0	4	5
Wheat Jointed	79	64	82	74
Wheat Headed	12	0	3	9

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending May 14, 2006

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Alfalfa	1	3	24	56	16
Oats	1	4	24	65	6
Wheat	13	20	31	30	6

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions declined and rated 4 percent very poor, 9 poor, 33 fair, 48 good, and 6 excellent, near last year. Cattle were being moved to pasture as growth allowed.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm.



A map of the state of Georgia divided into counties, each labeled with a numerical value representing the percentage of the population aged 65 and over. The values range from 0.00 to 1.46. The map shows a clear trend of higher percentages in the northern and western parts of the state, with the highest value of 1.46 in the extreme southwest corner.

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.15	.02	.07	.05	.28	.04	.10	.67
Total since April 1	1.48	3.46	3.68	2.07	4.21	.85	1.75	5.22
Normal since April 1	3.10	3.54	4.21	4.01	4.50	3.34	3.73	4.57
Total as % of normal	47%	98%	87%	51%	93%	25%	46%	113%

Station		Temperature			
		Extremes		Average	Departure
		High	Low		
NW	Alliance	75	28	50	-6
	Scottsbluff	77	29	52	-3
	Sidney	75	28	49	-7
NC	Ainsworth	69	31	51	-8
	Arthur	75	32	51	-6
	O'Neill	70	33	52	-7
NE	Concord	75	35	54	-6
	Elgin	75	36	54	-5
	West Point	76	38	56	-5
C	Grand Island	84	35	56	-3
	Lexington	81	35	56	-3
	Ord	78	31	55	-5
EC	Central City	82	36	57	-3
	Lincoln	78	41	59	-3
	Mead	80	42	59	-3
SW	Champion	79	30	55	-3
	Dickens	83	29	55	-3
	McCook	80	30	56	-2
SC	Minden	82	34	56	-3
	Red Cloud	81	37	57	-3
	Smithfield	80	36	56	-2
SE	Beatrice	77	39	58	-4
	Clay Center	79	35	56	-3
	Nemaha	80	42	59	-3

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate Office